

# What-cha-ma-call-it!?! \*

## January 2004 — GSL Newsletter

*\* Name this publication and win a prize*

***In this Issue:*** Directors Desk – GSL Web News – Name the Newsletter Contest – Events Calendar – GSL Family News – Leadership Seminars – Adminis-Trivia – Techno Tip – Town Hall/Birthday Party – Quarterly Question

### From the Director's Desk

Happy New Year! And welcome to the first issue of the GSL Newsletter!

I'm looking forward to another great year for GSL, and I hope you are, too. This newsletter is a fine way to start the new year. It's one of several ways we're trying to improve communications within GSL, besides the typical blizzard of e-mail messages you get every day. We're having town hall meetings, monthly leadership seminars, and just launched our new GSL Intranet Web site a few months ago.

This newsletter is ***your*** newsletter, and I hope you'll help make it something that's worthwhile for you. Jessica Ruff will be the editor for the newsletter, but she (and I) will appreciate your contributions—photographs, stories, helpful tips, anything you want to contribute that you don't mind sharing with a wider audience. Our goal is to share news and lots of items of interest about our work and also about our time away from the job—news about GSL employees, retirees, and their families; items about community activities we participate in; updates from our deployed team members; calendar items; and fun photos.

With your help and contributions, Jessica will prepare the newsletter on a quarterly basis, distribute to all in GSL via e-mail, and post all editions on the [GSL Intranet Web page](#).

One of the first tasks at hand is to name the newsletter. See page 2 for details on how you can help.

Happy reading!

Dave Pittman,  
Acting Director, GSL



## GSL Web News

**Remember** — bookmark these new GSL Web sites:

- <http://gsl.erd.c.usace.army.mil>, GSL Internet (public-access site)
- <https://gsl-mil.erd.c.usace.army.mil>, GSL Extranet (DoD-restricted access site)
- <https://gslinfo.erd.c.usace.army.mil>, GSL Intranet (ERDC-access site)

If you haven't already done so, check your access to each of these sites and send feedback (anytime) to [Jessica Ruff](#). **Note:** It was reported early on that a few people couldn't access the military-restricted (<https://>) sites, but a quick fix has been found, which requires only that a computer technician makes a phone call to get your PC connected. There's no inconvenience to you or downtime for your PC.

GSL now has three support people for PC hardware and software, networking, and peripheral support. Instead of trying to contact one individual when service is needed, an email account **GSL-PCSUPPORT** has been established to allow sending an email request that can be viewed by all three.

In those cases where it is possible, please request service by email to GSL-PCSUPPORT. When this is not possible, you can still call Elizabeth McDevitt x2870, Pete Warnock x2716, or Colin Leach x3891 for support.

### GSL SOP now online

You can now find the GSL Standing Operating Procedure document on the GSL Intranet, at <https://gslinfo.erd.c.usace.army.mil>. This SOP was developed over the last 2 years, as we learned what works best for our reorganized laboratory. The SOP was reviewed by all lab supervisors, all lab admin, several PIs who have been here for many years, and several people who had been here the shortest amount of time. This SOP is for everyone, and it includes items that are useful for each GSL team member. Dr. Pittman has encouraged each GSL employee to read through it at least once and to inform his/her supervisor or branch administrative person of ideas for better ways of doing business. The GSL SOP is meant to always be a "living," useful document, and changes will be made as needed.



### Calling All Creative Minds — Name the Newsletter

We need **your** help to name the GSL newsletter! We're having a contest, and the person who submits the most creative entry that best represents GSL and its extended family will win a prize.

So, put your brainpower to work and submit your best entries to [Jessica Ruff](#) by COB Friday, Feb 27. A committee will review all the entries, select the best one, and award the prize. We'll report on all the entries received and announce the winner in the April 2004 issue. Just think—you could be crowned GSL King or Queen for the Day and be awarded a fabulous prize! Be creative, remember that it's for fun, and create our winning entry!



## Events Calendar

*The Events Calendar is designed to make you aware of both official and unofficial events in which a large number of GSL employees would have an interest. If you would like to publicize an event in the newsletter that meets this criterion, contact Jessica Ruff with details.*

Jan 28 (10-11 am), GSL Self-Development Seminar, "Hanging on to Your Money" (Coin Collecting and Numismatics), presented by [Milton Myers](#) (GV-Z), GEEB Conference Room, Casagrande Bldg, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Rm 4 ("Blue Room")

Feb 1 — Deadline to submit abstracts, Seventh International Symposium on Utilization of High-Strength/High Performance Concrete, Jun 20-24, 2005, <http://www.concrete.org/CallforPapers.pdf>, sponsor: The American Concrete Institute

Feb 11, African American History Month feature program, 10 am, Vicksburg District's Multipurpose Conference Room

Feb 16, Presidents' Day observed – Government holiday

Feb 23-26, GI R&D Gang Meeting at HQs, POC: [Dr. Mary Ellen Hynes](#)

Feb 24-26, Force Projection Peer Review, POC: [Al Bush](#)

Mar 8-12, Spring Break for Vicksburg-Warren County School District

Mar 8-12, UXO/Countermining Forum - Challenges in Military Sustainment, St. Louis, MO, <http://www.theforum2004.com/features.html>

May 17-21, SAME National Education and Training Conference, "2004 Engineering Fiesta," San Antonio, TX, <http://www.same2004.org>

June 14-18, WES 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a weeklong schedule of activities is being planned, concluding with the CHL Building Dedication on Jun 18. **[Note:** An Anniversary Planning Committee is heading up this event and, over the next couple of months, will be soliciting ideas from ERDC-Vicksburg employees on activities they'd like included. The intent is to present a variety of activities geared toward involving the ERDC-Vicksburg team and their families, retirees, and the community and schools. Representing GSL on the Committee are [Milton Myers](#) (GV-Z), [Shirley Griffin](#) (GM-C), and [Jessica Ruff](#) (ITL/GV-Z). Your ideas are welcomed, so please pass them on to one of these folks.]

Jun 22-24, 72<sup>nd</sup> MORS Symposium, Theme "OR Support for Tomorrow's Force," Monterey, CA, Military Operations Research Society, [http://www.mors.org/72nd\\_morss/72nd\\_morss.htm](http://www.mors.org/72nd_morss/72nd_morss.htm)

Sep 14-16, Seventh ISTVS Asia-Pacific Conference, Jilin University, Changchun, China, International Society for Terrain-Vehicle Systems, <http://www.istvsap2004.com>

Oct 18-20, 75<sup>th</sup> Shock and Vibration Seminar, Virginia Beach, VA, Shock and Vibration Information Analysis Center, [http://www.saviac.org/75th\\_symposium.htm](http://www.saviac.org/75th_symposium.htm)



## GSL Family News

**Sherice Glasper**, Sophomore Maid, Warren Central High School Homecoming Court (daughter of Fannie Glasper, GS-M), Oct 17



### Grandchildren of Tina (GS-E) and Dick (retired, GM-A) Grau



*Richard Dalton*  
Born February 22, 2002



*Jackson Tyler*  
Born March 11, 2002



*Audrey Grace*  
Born March 26, 2002

### Grandchildren of Judy and Joe Tom (GM-C)



*Twins Karlisle (left) and Klausen (right)*



*John William, holding Cooper*

### Christmas Party 2003





### News from our deployed team members...

We can be so proud of GSL's outstanding contributions to ERDC's deployment efforts. Of the 10 currently deployed ERDC employees, five are GSL team members—with duty stations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and with the TAC. Our plans are to bring you more news about their experiences in future newsletters. Let's remember to support these folks and to pay attention to future deployment opportunities as they're advertised.



Carlos Gonzalez (GM-A) in Afghanistan



Julie Kelley (GS-G) in Baghdad

### In memory...



### **Charles E. Joachim (1937-2004)**

**Charlie Joachim** (GS-S) died unexpectedly on Jan 9 while visiting his family in Vermont. An employee since 1962, Charlie will be remembered for his generosity to family and friends, and especially for his photographs of family events. He often traveled many miles to record the baptism, wedding, or Christmas celebration of those he loved. Tommy Ray (GM-I) recalls that "He was a very gentle man but could overpower you with his deep thoughts." A full obituary is available on the [Burlington Free Press](#) Web page (select date Jan 12; then

scroll to Item 6.). Online condolences can be sent to Charlie's family and/or viewed at <http://www.readyfuneral.com>. A memorial service will be held on Feb 6, 11:00 am, at St. Michael's Catholic Church off Fisher Ferry Rd. Contact [Steve Shore](#) for info.

## New employees...

### **Larry Allen**

ERDC Research Liaison Officer to MANSCEN

Fort Leonard Wood, MO

Larry was selected as the ERDC Research Liaison Officer to the Maneuver Support Center (MANSCEN) in December 2003, upon the retirement of Rose Acheson. He serves as the information hub between the ERDC and the Engineer, Chemical, and Military Police Schools, and the Maneuver Support Battle Lab at the MANSCEN.



Previously, Larry served as the lead analyst for the Concepts Branch, Engineer Division of MANSCEN's Directorate of Combat Developments (DCD), responsible for S&T integration. He also served as chief of the DCD Program Management Division and has been employed with the Engineer School since 1987.

Larry holds a bachelor's degree in public administration from Southwest Missouri State College and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the National Defense University National Security Management course, and the Army Management Staff College.

He is a 24-year retired veteran of the U.S. Army and Army Reserve. He served in Vietnam with the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and in Germany with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. He and his wife Jane enjoy family times with their daughter, son-in-law, and two granddaughters. Larry spends the rest of his leisure time surfing the Net, taking pictures, and keeping his 1996 Mazda Miata in shape for weekend trips during the summer.

You can reach Larry by phone at (573) 596-0131, ext 3-6242 (DSN 676-6242), or by e-mail to [james.allen1@us.army.mil](mailto:james.allen1@us.army.mil).

## New employees...

### **Jay Ehrgott**

Research Civil Engineer

Impact and Explosion Effects Branch

Jay joined the GSL team in mid-November and works in the Engineering Systems and Materials Division's IEEB.

His education includes a B.S. degree in civil engineering from Mississippi State University and a master's degree from Louisiana State University. Jay is a Vicksburg native and the son of the late John Ehrgott, former Assistant Director of the Structures Laboratory.

Since graduation from college, Jay has been employed in the Baton Rouge area, in the petrochemical industry and as a private consultant.

Jay and his wife, Kristy, have two children—Justin, age 4, and Jaleigh, 22 months. When he finds some leisure time, Jay enjoys fishing, golf, mountain-biking, and running.

Take an opportunity to help welcome Jay to GSL and ERDC. His office is in Building 3278, Room 21; his phone extension is 3280; and his e-mail address is [Jay.Q.Ehrgott@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:Jay.Q.Ehrgott@erdc.usace.army.mil).



### **Missy Green**

Technician

Survivability Engineering Branch

Missy began working for GSL in early January as a contractor with Bevilacqua Research Corporation. She is assigned to the Survivability Engineering Branch office, where she works closely with Linda Jones.

For the last 11 years, Missy was a contractor with ITL and provided administrative support to the Multimedia Presentation Branch.

Missy grew up in Vicksburg and graduated from Warren Central High School. She has three children, ages 18, 16, and 10, and most of her off-duty time is spent “running with the kids.”

Missy's office is in Building 5001; her phone extension is 3627; and her e-mail address is [Missy.M.Green@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:Missy.M.Green@erdc.usace.army.mil).





## New employees...

### **Colin Leach**

#### **IT Support Technician**

Colin became a GSL team member in early December 2003, when he was hired by Alpha Data Corporation and assigned to provide services for GSL.

He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi, where he earned a bachelor of business administration degree in management information systems. He brings experience gained as a computer technician with Canufly Internet Services and Nassour Computers and, most recently, as MIS technician at the Isle of Capri Casino. (No, he didn't work on the gaming floor!)

When he's able to get away from computers, Colin enjoys "spending time with family, being outdoors, and taking weekend trips." His wife Sara is a Public Affairs Specialist in the ERDC-Vicksburg PAO.

Introduce yourself to Colin when you get a chance. His office is in the Casagrande Building, Room 439; his phone extension is 3891; and his e-mail address is [Colin.W.Leach@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:Colin.W.Leach@erdc.usace.army.mil).



### **George Sills**

#### **Research Civil Engineer**

#### **Geotechnical and Earthquake Engineering Branch**

George joined the Geosciences and Structures Division (GSD) in late November 2003, to begin a 6-month assignment as a liaison between GSD and Corps District offices.

With 32 years of Government service, George brings to ERDC a wealth of practical understanding of the issues faced by District employees who use GSL technologies. Based on his experience in the Vicksburg District's Geotechnical Branch (Engineering Division), George is working to improve ERDC communications with the Corps' geotechnical design and construction community. He is also helping GSD to prepare urgently needed guidance for MSCs in the area of levee design and underseepage analysis.

George holds a B.S. in civil engineering from Mississippi State University and a master's degree from Texas A&M University, and has completed coursework through Louisiana State University toward a doctorate. He and his wife Huel have five children and three grandchildren. He is a motorcyclist and, last October, enjoyed an 8-day, 2100-mile ride in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

George's office is Rm 26 in the Casagrande Building; his phone extension is 3165; and his e-mail address is [George.L.Sills@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:George.L.Sills@erdc.usace.army.mil).



### [New employees...](#)

- *Clay Callihan* is a Research Mechanical Engineer (StEB) stationed at Fort Knox, KY (phone 502-624-5295). Details soon.
- *Jonathan Bennett* (GS-V) is a Research Structural Engineer. Details soon.
- *Bradley Foust* (GS-M) is a Research Structural Engineer. Details soon.
- *Stephen Robert* (GS-M) is a Research Structural Engineer. Details soon.

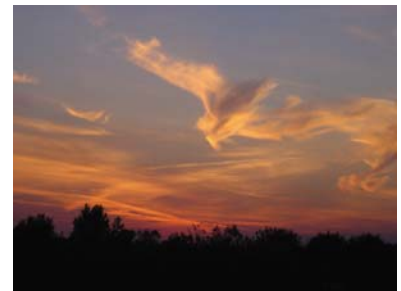
### [ACI publishes tributes to Bryant Mather...](#)

All those who had the privilege of knowing the late Bryant Mather will appreciate the amusing and touching tributes to him that can be found on the [ACI International Web site](#). Bernard Erlin, ACI President, relates his own impressions of Mather as a professional and a person of character. Eight other tributes are presented, including “The Intimidator” by Billy Neeley, GM-C, and “My Boss” by GSL retiree Loretta Newton.

### [Congrats to...](#)

— Ellis Krinitzsky, Senior Research Scientist (GV-Z), received in Nov 2003 the Geological Society of America’s prestigious Edward Burwell, Jr., Memorial Award in recognition of his distinguished contribution to engineering geology. This award honors the memory of the first chief geologist of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was presented to Dr. Krinitzsky for his paper “How to Obtain Earthquake Ground Motion for Engineering Design,” published in *Engineering Geology*. The citation states that his paper is “the gift of an honest and informed geoscientist.”

— Brandi Loden, daughter of [Cheri Loden](#) (GV-Z contractor), entered her photograph “Sunset Eagle” in The International Library of Photography’s (ILP) amateur photography competition. Her photo was selected for publication in an ILP anthology and was entered into the organization’s cash-prize contest. To view this award-winning photo, type Brandi’s name in the search-term window on the ILP homepage ([www.picture.com](http://www.picture.com)). This photo and three others taken by Brandi were selected for Vicksburg High School entries in the Scholastic Art Award 2004 Competition.



*Sunset Eagle*

— Jose Llopis (GS-G) and Bryan Register (ITL-TEOC) participated in the Jan 10 Mississippi Marathon, a 26.2-mile run on the Natchez Trace Parkway. Of the 117 marathon participants, Jose placed fourth in his division, and Bryan placed sixth in his division. Way to go, guys!

[more...](#)

### Congrats to...(continued)

- Paul Mlakar, Senior Research Scientist (GV-Z), will receive the Purdue University School of Civil Engineering's Alumnus Achievement Award. On Feb 19, Mlakar will meet with the Purdue engineering faculty and students to relate his career story, to answer questions, and to be honored during the Recognition Ceremony.
- Fantessa M. Regan, daughter of George Regan (GM-A) and Virginia Regan, who graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in accounting from MSU on Dec 13.
- Dorothy Staer (GM) achieved the Competent Toastmaster (CTM) level, as an active member of the Vicksburg Toastmasters Club 2052. To attain the CTM level in Toastmasters International, one must complete 10 speech projects in the "Communication and Leadership Program" manual.
- Chuck Weiss (GM-C), Phil Malone (GM-R), Larry Lynch (GM-R), and Jeff Williamson (GM-T) were team members on the *only two* ERDC teams that won a 2003 Army Research and Development Achievement (RDA) Award! Chuck and Phil (along with Vince Hock, Mike McInerney, Sean Morefield, and Charlie Marsh at CERL) won for their work on the Electronic Osmotic Pulse technology for control of water transport through porous materials. Larry and Jeff (along with Bill Fryer, Bryan Register, and Jeff Powell of ITL) won for their work on the TeleEngineering Communications Equipment-Deployable (TCE-D) Satellite Communications (SATCOM) System.

### Condolences to...

- Byron Armstrong (GS-S) on the death of his father, Byron J. Armstrong.
- Dwain Butler (retired) on the death of his father, Rev. Oliver T. Butler, on Jan 16.
- Edith Caples (GV-T) on the death of her father, Walter Watson, on Nov 29.
- Lester Flowers (GS-E) on the death of his father, Lester O. Flowers, on Dec 10.
- Laura Hyde (GS-S) on the death of her father, Mr. Carl D. Rather. Services were on Dec 18.
- Pamela May (GM-M) on the death of her mother, Juanese Matthews Raines.
- Johannes Wibowo (GS-E) on the death of his brother, Johanda Wibowo, on Saturday, Nov 22, in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Dan Wilson (GM-C) on the death of his father, Wesley Wilson, on Jan 20. Wesley Wilson was also the granduncle of Colin Leach (Contractor/GV-T).



### [Farewell to our recent retirees...](#)

- Rose Acheson, ERDC Research Liaison Officer to the Maneuver Support Center (MANSCEN) at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, who retired from the ERDC on Dec 4, with 26 years of federal service to the nation.
- Richard Ahlvin (GM-M), IT Specialist (Systems Analysis) (Jan 04)
- Max Ford (GS-V), Research Civil Engineer (Jan 04)
- James McCaskill (GM-I), Civil Engineering Technician (Sep 03)
- Bennie Washington (GS-E), Physical Science Technician (Sep 03)



*Rose Acheson*

## **GSL Leadership Seminars**

If you haven't yet taken advantage of the GSL Leadership Seminars, you're missing some interesting and useful presentations. Since the seminars began in Feb 03, a variety of topics have been presented, including "Hobbies and Outside Interests" by Bob Larson (GS-G); "Computer Security" by Billy Crabtree, ERDC Security Office; and "Approval Process for Foreign Nationals and Foreign Contractors" by Linda McGowan, ERDC Security Office.

Watch for news of upcoming seminars and make plans to attend. The next one is titled "Hanging on to Your Money" (Coin Collecting and Numismatics) and will be presented by [Milton Myers](#) (GV-Z), on Wed., Jan 28, 10-11 am, in the Casagrande Building (Bldg 3396), GEEB Conference Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor, Rm 4, "Blue Room" at the back of the building).

## **Adminis-trivia**

- A link to the [2004 Civilian Pay Schedule](#) has been added to the GSL Intranet.
- The ERDC Information Assurance Team issued a Green Alert, "Use of Peer to Peer File Sharing Applications," on Jan 16, to remind Army employees that use of unauthorized Peer to Peer (P2P) file sharing applications on DoD computers is illegal and must be terminated immediately. Many such applications are used to share music and video files over the Internet but, according to the HQs directive "P2P software or similar programs are unauthorized for use on Army networks." The Army will soon be issuing an Information Assurance Vulnerability Alert requiring ERDC to report that no P2P applications are being used on our networks. In preparation for this IAVA, any computer user at ERDC who has this type of software on their computer must remove it immediately. If you have questions, contact [Elizabeth McDevitt](#) (GSL's Lead IASO) or check for details on the [ERDC IA Web page](#).
- Based on employee requests, Gate 6 (near tennis courts) is now open Monday through Friday, 0700-1800, until 1 April 2004. After a review of the cost and usage of the gate, ERDC will make a corporate decision either to keep the gate open 0700-1800 daily or go back to the previous hours of operation (0700-0900, 1100-1300, 1530-1800).



## Techno Tip

In each newsletter, we'd like to feature a useful tip or time-saving technology that we can use to save time. Please let us know if you have found something along these lines that would be of interest to your GSL coworkers.

In this issue, we're featuring instructions for installing a desktop icon for BellSouth's online phonebook. These were provided in Oct 03 by Cheryl Grogan, ITL, and were forwarded via e-mail to all GSL by Sharon McBride. If you missed getting them, they're reproduced below. [Cheryl's comment: Keep in mind that these are written as *simple* instructions...not meant to insult anyone!]

1. Get on the Internet.
2. On the address bar type <http://www.therealyellowpages.com>. Press enter.
3. On the left under PLACES TO GO, click Phone Books Online.
4. On this screen in the white portion of the screen at the bottom is "click here" in blue. Click it.
5. On this screen, click the yellow Activex button. Take time to read the message if you desire.
6. "Do you want to install and run..." YES.
7. On this screen you are instructed to select the default book and section (for example, choose MS/Vicksburg/whitepages). Click OK.
8. On the next screen close the Tip of the Day.
9. To add other phone books, click on the right down arrow beside BOOK (on the top right side).
10. Click add/remove button.
11. Highlight the state/city name you want to add and click add. When finished, click OK.
12. To look up a number, make sure the city you want is listed beside BOOK.
13. To look up the number, click on the down arrow beside SECTION (on the top left side).
14. Choose white pages or yellow pages, etc. The first page of the book appears.
15. Across the top of that page is a bar. Click the down arrow, and you get the headings for the pages of the book.

Highlight the name and number you are looking up, and click the third button from the left of the tool bar for this site. The name and number you highlighted is enlarged. Unclick the EZ view button to reduce the highlighted listing.



## GSL Town Hall Meeting and Birthday Party



Those that attended the October 8, 2003, GSL Town Hall Meeting learned about the many great things that GSL team members accomplished during FY03, the ongoing work efforts, and challenges on the horizon. Dr. Pittman and other members of the BOD presented a PowerPoint presentation and conducted a question-and-answer session. A highlight of the meeting was viewing the video "GSL Scrapbook 2003," produced by Don Nelson (GS-V), narrated by Dr. Pittman, and filled with lots of entertaining and heartwarming images of GSL folks at work and at play. Go to GSL Intranet page <https://gslinfo.erdc.usace.army.mil/pictures/bday03/bdyindex.html> to access the PowerPoint presentation and to view the group photos taken at the Town Hall Meeting and informal photos taken at the party. In the near future, we'll also post a shortened version of the "Scrapbook '03" video, with access from the same Web page.

*GSL large group photo taken  
at Town Hall Meeting*



*GSL new employees (FY03)*



## GSL 3rd Birthday Party



## Quarterly Question

In the April newsletter, we'd like to print a collection of your funniest childhood memories. Whatever you'd like to share would be fine—maybe a cute photo, or just a sentence or two about some memory that makes you smile. We'll send out a reminder in a few weeks, so find your old photo albums and be thinking about those “good ole days.”

To get us in the right frame of mind, [Mike Coomes](#) (GV-B) has graciously allowed us to print one of several stories he's written about life in a big family. Enjoy!

**Prelude:** I am the oldest of eleven children. Large families are virtually non-existent in today's world. I have many memories from my childhood days...some pleasant, some not so pleasant. Several years ago I began writing a book based on my childhood memories. It is a work still in progress. I am using an outline format whereas I take a period of time in my childhood, use it as a main heading and then write about events that happened during that time frame. The following is an excerpt from my *Greenville Years*.

### “Roly-Poly Renee”

Webster's dictionary defines the term roly-poly as “short and plump, round, as a person, a young animal.” I don't know the biological name for this little creature we called a roly-poly, but I am sure that sometime during your childhood you also came into contact with this tiny bug. Roly-polys (pronounced roll-e poll-e) are members of the caterpillar family. They are usually found under rocks, fallen limbs, and other earthly environments that provide damp and dark hideaways. When they are threatened by other creatures or handled by human hands, they will roll up into a ball. Thus, the name (I guess). As children we were really fascinated by them and knew they were harmless to observe and play with. Sometimes we would construct tiny dirt roads in the backyard and pretend these little critters were buses and cars moving along the highways and byways that we built.



One particular afternoon in 1963, my sister Renee, who was six years old at the time, was in the backyard of our house in Greenville, Mississippi, playing all by her lonesome (a rare sight indeed). She had managed to uncover some roly-polys. Naturally when she reached to pick them up they rolled into tiny little balls. I don't know what prompted her to do what she did next (maybe she was trying to find a storage place for these litter critters so she could play with them later), but she began stuffing them up her nose. No one was around to prevent her from doing this. Quite honestly I don't think that my brothers and I would have stopped her. She calmly came into the house with a nose full of roly-polys. Mom almost went into shock when she saw Renee. My sister was quite calm and having very little trouble breathing, but I guess the sight of bugs crammed up your child's nose would cause a parent to go into hysterics. All of her brothers and sisters were standing behind Mom trying not to laugh out loud. About this time Dad was pulling into the driveway, anticipating a time of relaxing after a hard day at work. No chance! Mom was frantic, Dad was trying to remain as calm as possible. Both knew that Renee needed medical attention, so Dad quickly put her in the car and drove her to the hospital. He was met at the emergency entrance by the doctor and nurses on call. They rushed Renee into a room, with Dad following several steps behind. The excitement of all of this had prompted Renee to start crying her little heart out. Dad came into the room and held her hand. A nurse came into the room with what appeared to be surgical tweezers. Dad did not have a medical degree, but he knew what was about to happen next. They were going to have to pull each little bug out of Renee's nose using these tweezers. Dad tried to be strong for his little girl but the minute they began this procedure, Dad became weak-kneed. He couldn't handle watching what was happening to his baby girl. He passed out. The nurses revived him with some smelling salts and escorted him to the waiting room. Renee came through her ordeal with flying colors. All of the roly-polys had been successfully retrieved. Dad regained his composure and then drove home. Needless to say, Renee's nose/bug storage facility was quite sore for the next few days.